

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Through this Response, claims 30, 35, 41 and 47 have been amended and claims 34 and 46 have been canceled. Therefore, claims 30-33, 35-45 and 47-51 are pending in the present application. No new subject matter has been added.

In item 5 of the current Office Action, the Examiner has objected to the abstract of the disclosure on the ground that the abstract should be on a single page. The Examiner has indicated that correction is required. Applicants respectfully submit that the abstract, as presented in the preliminary amendment filed on September 9, 2005, is in proper form. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the current objection be withdrawn.

In item 7 of the current Office Action, the Examiner has indicated that claims 34-40 and 46-51 stand objected to but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In an effort to move this application to issuance, Applicants have elected to amend independent claim 30 by incorporating the elements of claim 34. Accordingly, claim 34 has been canceled and claim 35 now depends on independent claim 30. Similarly, Applicants have elected to amend independent claim 41 by incorporating the elements of claim 46. Claim 46 has been canceled and claim 47 now depends on independent claim 41. Through these amendments, independent claims 30 and 41 stand in condition for allowance.

Claims 31-33 and 35-40 depend on independent claim 30. Claims 42-45 and 47-51 depend on independent claim 41. Because these claims depend on an allowable independent claim, they are allowable on at least that basis. They may also be allowable on their own merit.

With regard to the currently amended claims, an effort has been made to retain all of the recited elements and features of the base and intervening claims as set forth in the previous response. In some instances, minor formatting changes were made to the previously submitted base and intervening claims. If the Examiner believes that anything has been inadvertently omitted or if other phrasing is preferred, the undersigned attorney of record should be contacted in the hope of expediting the resolution of any such issues and the allowance of this application.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that claims 30-33, 35-45 and 47-51 are in condition for allowance. If after reviewing this amendment the Examiner feels that any issues remain which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative by telephone to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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